

WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

No. 253

With which is incorporated
the International Socialist Review for Australasia.

SYDNEY, FEBRUARY 27, 1915.

Registered at the General Post Office, Sydney,
for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

PRICE, ONE PENNY

The Passing Show.

"Men enslave themselves." Tolstoy.
"Business as usual." Another attack on
the spoken.

Disruption at Newcastle.

Over-crowding in the badly-latched. Re-
minders are called up.

New Regulations have been proclaimed
by N.S.W. Labor Government on govern-
ment street speaking.

Under the new regulations, no person
shall speak in a public street and attract a
crowd, if the police object.

It is provided, very carefully, however,
"that no person shall be liable to a penalty
under this regulation who displays
goods, etc., in a window in the ordinary
and usual course of business."

If the display is too attractive in a shop
window the police have the power to order
its removal.

The new regulations give the guardians
of capitalism extraordinary powers to deal
with Socialist propaganda.

Meetings were held as usual on Sunday
night, but no arrests were made.

Socialist propaganda is unsettling. The
Labor Leagues are in a ferment, and the
Labor Government is depending on the
police to steady the slaves.

Capitalism cannot employ the workers
or feed their hungry children, but it can
set millions of strong men slaughtering
each other and feed them while they are
doing it.

"The Canadian contingent had to have
new shoes in England. The profit system
shows its men trained to kill with poor
footwear." Cotton's Weekly.

Every jail is a monument to man's brutality
and ignorance.

Brains alone will win battles for free
speech. Noise and numbers hardly count.

The idle army in New York City has
reached the half million mark.

"It is impossible to poison the milk of
human kindness forever, just as it is im-
possible to transform a home-living citizen
into a soldier thinking of nothing but war."
—S.M. Herald, "in a sober moment."

"We need an army for its moral influ-
ence, if for nothing else. In a nation of
100 millions, there are liable to be riots,
mobs, and insurrections, which cannot be
regulated except by the presence of an
army." Ex-President Taft. There's a
reason.

"Twenty-five years ago Labor in Aus-
tralia politically was a babe in swaddling
clothes. To-day it controls . . . the
National Parliament and half the States."
—The Worker (Brisbane). Yes, and al-
ready it shows signs of senile decay before
it has executed its wisdom teeth.

The function of the modern Capitalist
State seems to be, according to statesmen,
to preserve internal order and external
disorder.

Lord Kitchener has consented to the or-
ganisation of a "bantam brigade" of vol-
unteers. Now the short man will have no
excuse, but will be expected to back his
patriotism with the gun. When you come
to think of it, the bantams ought to make
good soldiers. They will be harder to hit,
lighter to transport, and easier to clothe,
and when they are dead enough from bul-
let-stopping, will require much smaller
holes to be buried in.

"Recent happenings in regard to the In-
dustrial Arbitration laws has shown the
absolute folly and injustice of expecting

A. S. P. 1915 CONFERENCE DELEGATES.



Reading from left to right, standing: Ray Everitt, H. L. Denford, M. Rudolph, Gordon Brown,
H. Christopherson.
Middle Row: Luke Jones, W. R. Winspear, G. H. Shade, J. W. Roche, J. R. Wilson.
Front Row, sitting: M. Carney, J. Quinton.

unionists to relinquish the strike weapon
until a very much improved system of ar-
bitration is devised, by which justice can
be assured."—The "Australian Worker."
The "Worker" doesn't realise yet that no
system of arbitration can do away with the
class struggle.

"In my opinion, we have by no means
reached bottom in Western Australia, or
in the Empire. Albany and the goldfields
have felt the war and the draught less
than other places, but doubtless they will
feel the depression later on. . . . Every-
thing has been arranged to keep things go-
ing until October, but I cannot say what
will happen after that."—Premier Scad-
den, of West Australia. The borrowing
boom will probably bust in October—or
has it busted already?

"In the hour of greatest danger specu-
lators in Germany are profiting by the
wretchedness of the poor."—S.M. Her-
ald. The speculators in the British Em-
pire don't do such a dastardly thing, O
dear no.

"Reviewing, at the annual meeting of
the shareholders, the operations of the
Australian Pastoral Company, Ltd., dur-
ing last year, the Chairman, Mr. E. A.
Keating, said that the profits, which
amounted to £169,417, were in excess of
the previous highest record, which was
£150,571 in 1911. This excellent result, he
said, was due to a good season, good prices,
and exceptionally large sales of stock."—
Melbourne press item. The chairman left
out the principal cause of the exception-
ally high profits, namely, the cheapness of
labor, or low wages. But of course it
wouldn't do for the chairman to mention
that. It might wake up the Mugs and
Boncheads who fight for "their country."

New Zealand's revenue for a recent ten
months was £8,427,420, and the expendi-
ture £9,832,132. This the Finance Min-
ister thinks "must be considered satisfac-
tory." He didn't say to whom it must
be satisfactory, so we are left to infer that
he meant it must be satisfactory to the
lending, borrowing, and skinning frater-
nity of the Empire.

N.S.W. Minister for Education has got
his cooking classes under way, and a de-
monstration was given at a Sydney subur-
ban school last week. It is said that by
a special capitalistic process, serag ends
of meat that were formerly fed to pigs
were made into palatable dishes for the
poor, and rumour has it that even the hair,
horns, bones and other portions of a car-
case, are to be dished up, but we don't
vouch for the truth of that.

To understand the Northern miners'
trouble, and why they are always fighting
the coal owners, we have to know that the
men are constantly compelled to work un-
der increasingly dangerous conditions in

the interest of profit-mongers. The Re-
port of the N.S.W. Accident Relief Fund
for 1914 shows something of the risks the
miner has to face. There were 52 deaths
by reason of accident, "a number much
below the records of previous years," and
no less than 5557 disablements, and that
was a decrease of 1627 as compared with
1913. The year 1914 was distinguished by
a plethora of little strikes, during which
many men were idle, and not taking the
ordinary risks. This, of course, accounts
for the reduction for last year. Ordinari-
ly, the miners literally carry their lives in
their hands, and for only a few bob a day
for themselves and fabulous wealth for
coal barons like John Brown.

Reading recent issues of Maoriland
"Worker" leads to the conclusion that if
New Zealand is "God's own country," it
is nevertheless ruled by a gang of capital-
ist devils.

Last Saturday's cables announced the
death of John Cooper, brother of the late
Sir Daniel Cooper. "S.M. Herald" states
he was "one of Sydney's greatest land-
owners." No doubt he and his brother
Dun, settled like a blight in this city.

N.S.W. Minister for Works, Arthur
Griffith, says that from March 1 the work-
men in his department will have their
working week increased to five days in
place of four. (Cheer boys, cheer! We've
got another loan.)

The Sydney police have been instructed
to make another attack on street speak-
ers. No doubt Socialists will be singled
out for special attention. Howlers and
Salvanny howlers will be encouraged.
They are useful to the ruling capitalists.

The ruling class of our glorious Empire
seem to be making a big move against the
rising tide of Socialism. First we had the
war to divert attention from industrial
unrest, and then a manifest disposition to
restore the power of the Catholic Church—
the purveyor of chloroform for the masses.
The sending of a British Envoy to the Va-
tican would have been the signal for a
violent outburst in ecclesiastical and po-
litical circles a few years ago. Now there is
a significant silence, a silence about the
matter which indicates a tacit agreement
in influential circles. Then we in Aus-
tralia have been "honored" with a Papal
Delegate, who was received with opem-
armed enthusiasm by every religious fac-
tion of the ruling class. He is not here
with any political intent, so he says, but
Church dignitaries have a happy knack of
saying one thing when they mean the op-
posite. However, we may take it for cer-
tain that he is here in the interests of our
masters, who are particularly anxious just
now to divert attention from the affairs of
this world to those of the next. Follow-
ing close upon the appointment of Cerretti

we had a proclamation from the N.S.W.
Labor Government against speaking and
selling Socialist literature and papers in
the streets. The Government practically
tells the workers that they are not to be
allowed to hear any other message than
the old one delivered by the Churches. If
they don't like that message, they will get
none.

If the Germans could be conquered by
noise they would have been settled long
ago by those who are yelling for others
to go to the front.

Norman Angell, the author of "The
Great Illusion," has published a new book,
entitled "Prussianism, and its Destruc-
tion." The author claims that the main
thesis of "The Great Illusion" has already
been proved. He puts it this way:

The result of that study (in "The Great
Illusion") was the conclusion that a war
of conquest and subjugation waged by one
European nation against another, however
successful from the military point of view,
must prove in terms of the moral and ma-
terial welfare of the victorious nation as
a whole futile or disastrous. It was
shown that ambitions like those of Pan-
Germanism could not, however successful,
serve any real end in promoting the hap-
piness, well-being, or dignity of the people
who sanctioned them, and whose sacrifices
made the achievement of them possible.
That conclusion this present war is now
tragically and pathetically confirming,
however much the complex details of the
military and political struggle may vary
the process of the demonstration. Even
from the point of view of the moral and
material well-being of the German people,
the victory of the Prussian arms would be
a disaster.

Angell shows that the real danger to
Europe is the universal belief in war. He
says:

"It is not the German national faith, the
"Deutschtum," the belief that the German
national ideal is best for the German—it is
not that belief that is a danger to Europe,
it is the belief that that German national
ideal is the best for all other people, and
that the Germans have a right to impose it
by the force of their armies. It is that be-
lief alone which can be destroyed by ar-
mies. We must show that we do not in-
tend to be brought under German rule or
have German ideals imposed upon us, and,
having demonstrated that, the Allies must
show that they in their turn have no in-
tention of imposing their ideals or their
rule or their dominance upon German
peoples. The Allies must show after this
war that they do not desire to be the mas-
ters of the German peoples or States, but
their partners or associates in a Europe
which "none shall dominate but which all
shall share."

"There are Prussians in our midst," An-
gell declares, and he proves this with quo-
tations from the writings of the late Lord
Roberts, the late Admiral Mahon, and
Professor Spenser Wilkinson, the Chichele
Professor of History at Oxford. Their
opinions, he shows, are indistinguishable
from those of General Bernardi, whose
writing have been made so much of by
British "Prussians."

Angell's book is exciting a vast amount
of criticism among jingoists, but his facts
are unassailable, and will find a lodgment
in millions of minds when the European
madness abates.

The Christian Forward movement of
Sydney and suburbs is tremendously pa-
triotic. The Committee invited all and
sundry to a "Patriotic Evening" on Feb.
26th., the proceeds to be devoted to the
relief of Belgian Children. In its invitation
circular the Committee explained that it
"set out to collect for the sorrowing chil-
dren in Belgium. And we now invite you to
the Patriotic Evening, when amount will be
handed to a real Belgian Child, if we can
get one. We want a child that has been
untouched by the brutal Germans, so that
we may see their high tone of civilization."
We do not know whether the Christian
Forward movement succeeded in getting a
butchered child or not, or whether the
health authorities are against the production
of such an exhibit, but we do hope that
none of the exhibitors will come near this
office.

The International Socialist

Journal of Revolutionary Socialism and Industrial Unionism.

Owned and controlled by the International Socialists.

Subscription: Australia, 4s per year, 1s per quarter. Postage added to other countries.

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Orders for Literature or Papers, and all cash payments connected therewith, should be addressed to
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Write on paper not larger than letter-paper, and thin enough to avoid getting us fined for over-weight.

Mark the package "Press Matter Only" and address it "To the Editor."

Write briefly and clearly, as long and un-decipherable articles stand no chance of publication.

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WHEN YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE.

The number on the wrapper of your paper is the number at which your subscription expires. Renew before that number is reached.

The fear of joining the useful producing class drives many a capitalist to oppress the workers in a manner which is entirely foreign to his nature.

Free Speech Attacked.

Trouble at Newcastle.

Over Twenty Men Jailed.

It seems evident that there is to be a general advance by the enemies of Free Speech.

N. S. W. Labor Government has framed new regulations to govern street speaking and other matters. The part of the new regulations dealing with street speaking reads thus:

"3. No person shall, by speaking, shouting, singing, playing upon, or sounding any musical or noisy instrument, or doing anything whatsoever, attract together a number of persons in a public street to the inconvenience, annoyance, or obstruction of pedestrians or persons."

These regulations, it will be seen, give large powers to the police, who have lost no time in putting them into force. Trouble has arisen at Kempsey, Grafton, and Newcastle.

At Kempsey, the police interfered with meetings held by Comrades Gordon Brown, Quinton, Bomholtz, and Hill, but no summonses were issued.

At Grafton Brown and Quinton were both summoned and appeared at the Grafton Court on February 17. Quinton's case was heard first and lasted all day. At the close of Q's case, the magistrate and police had had enough and the case against Gordon Brown was withdrawn.

At Newcastle the trouble has assumed more serious proportions, and at the time of writing some 27 A. S. P. Comrades and I. W. W. men have been dealt with and jailed.

The I. W. W. men have their own tactic in such cases, which in brief consists in attempting to win by force of numbers. This tactic has been fairly successful in America where the numbers are available to swamp the jails. Here, it is doubtful if the numbers exist who have the necessary ardor to face the courts and jails, and it is hence questionable whether it would not have been better to adopt the tactics which our Brisbane Comrades employed last year when they kept the police and courts employed for over eight months dealing with Free Speech Cases.

However, the other method has been adopted and it remains to be seen whether it will be successful or not. The tactic of the I. W. W. has one serious drawback, which is that in sending numbers of men into court to fight the police, there have to be included many who are unfit for the undertaking. One good man in such a fight is worth twenty, who, though full of fight have not the necessary ability to put the case and make the court officials realise that they are engaged in a mean and contemptible undertaking.

The Driving Force of Poverty

By J. L.

The seeds ye sow another reaps.
The wealth ye find another keeps;
The robes ye weave another wears;
The arms ye forge another bears.

I was disgusted to read in the daily press, where, restaurant proprietors were going to lower the waitresses wages to 12s., per week. I wonder how their wives and daughters would like to try and exist on so meagre a wage. It must be remembered that many of these girls have to entirely support themselves, pay room rent, meals, laundry, and very often tram fares. Just for a few moments let us spend it, rent of room if shared with another girl, 3s. 6d., per week, meals on Sunday off, 2s., washing even if done by herself would cost for material, firing etc., 1s. 6d., per week, and as many of the girls have to provide their own breakfast or go without, we will allow 2s. 6d., for that. Most girls have a time-payment order to meet, that easily swallows up another 2s. 6d. So on adding up we find we have spent the large amount of 12s., and when we think of the many socially-created desires and wants that these girls and women have and no honest means of gratifying them, it is at least a sufficient excuse for the presence of prostitution. How with such low wages is a girl or woman to furnish herself even with the commonest necessities, and clothes, boots, hats, gloves etc., have a way of wearing out or becoming shabby long before they are in a position to replace them. Once I read of an eminent Bishop who in the course of his sermon asked the question "Why should a poor girl willing to earn an honest living, find it scarcely possible to pay her way?" But these preachers have no distance to go to discover the answer. It can be seen at his side in the pulpit, it faces him in the pews, where sits the capitalist parasites and sweaters, hypocritically praying for the salvation of the souls of the women and girls whose bodies they were destroying and whose lives they are degrading in their shops and factory bells for profits; the answer is visibly plain on the walls of institutions which pillar up capitalism, its robbery and brutality. Easy virtue is regarded by well positioned social puritans and fat salaried sky-pilots as a bill for which the individual herself is solely responsible. No one can convince me that the members of the world's vast army of the night, solicited by choice, but rather from compulsion. From what little I have seen of this sort of life in the under-world, it is repulsive, degrading, and surrounded with hardships, and I feel sure that nothing but want would drive any woman to such an extreme.

The driving force of poverty, the keenness of unsatisfied desires etc., therein lies the cause of the greater portion of the prostitution in the world to-day. How in the name of goodness is it possible for working class women and girls to live anything like a decent life on the miserable pittance the capitalist employers pay them for their labor. When the temptations of the theatre, music hall, picture show, etc., and the flutter of the social butterfly that deck the blocks, is it to be wondered at that so many of the weaker sex fall victims. Desires are socially planted, and those denied by capitalist society opportunities of satisfying those desires will err in some direction or other in the endeavor to make an opportunity to do so. Therefore readers, do not treat your fallen sister too harshly, remember that in nine out of ten cases she is the creature of a vile and vicious environment. Do not forget, you folk who could never be as others, are under any set of circumstances, that you are born but not buried and only within the grave is immunity from the evils of capitalism absolutely assured.

Commercialism is destructive to the

The regulations framed by the Labor Government of N. S. W. are probably pannicky measures adopted to steady the discontent in the Labor Leagues. Socialist criticism has been destructive and has roused many in the Leagues and Unions to a keen appreciation of acts of commission and omission of their parliamentary leaders. Therefore, it is natural that the Government, which realises the damage that is being done, and the danger to itself that is resulting, should resort to the old and well tried methods of all tyrants.

It should be easy to show this in court, if the right men were sent there to present the facts. Also, the decision of Mr. Hall, the State Attorney-General, who refused in previous cases to discriminate between religious bodies and Socialists, should not be forgotten, but should be pressed upon the Courts and emphasised before the public.

A free speech fight properly conducted is never lost. The enemies of free speech have such a dirty task that they are always open to attack and defeat. They may fine and jail individuals and apparently silence them by force but ideas are promulgated in the fight which cannot be stifled. Men may be jailed by persecutors but truth in the end generally triumphs over persecution.

A Woman's Letter.

The Drums are still beating the call to arms, the gun-makers are having a lively time, and Mr. William Morris Hughes has been making patriotic speeches, and asking for support for a new rifle club at Mosman.

He did not ask for help for the number of men whom he and his crowd have thrown out of employment, and he did not ask for sympathy for the widows and orphans whom he and his pals have helped to make. No, he wanted help for a new rifle club, so that more fools might learn to shoot down their fellow creatures. "There is too much reason to believe that some among us yet dwell in a lotus-eating land, where the clarion call of duty is never heard" extract from Billy. Billy certainly has been living in a lotus land, and he has been deaf, dumb and blind to the call of duty. Does he know that his duty would be to guard the welfare of the people, upon whose backs he has climbed into his present snug berth? Does he think it his duty to go among the touts and thugs of the capitalists, and the very worst kind of capitalists at that, to talk a lot of balderdash about duty? Self-preservation is the first law of nature, yet this little clown is urging men not only to destroy themselves but other men like themselves, and with whom they have no quarrel. Mosman, I would like to mention, is a perfect nest of under-strappers, of the Employers Federation, land sharks, and every kind of boomster under the sun. With the exception of a small labor following almost the entire population are followers of Charles Gregory Wade, and all his poms and works, and it is into this stronghold of Wadeism, that our Labor (?) Attorney General goes as a welcome friend and comrade. Well! like likes like, and Birds of a feather, etc.

Every plank in the Labor platform from whence Billy stepped into the Lotus land of Parliament and office, has been smashed by this little Lotus eating minion of capitalism.

The Labor movement is absolutely and entirely opposed to militarism, and Billy and his pals were pledged to oppose it in any shape or form, yet, we find this little traitor posing before a mob of Wade's satellites, and talking about duty, while he is booming a rifle club and gabbling about Lotus eating. Billy and his pals will see that they will do all the Lotus eating, the people may go and eat bricks for all they care. And what is Billy up to anyhow? does he think those horrid Socialists are getting a bit too strong? and is he going to help his friend Willie Holman to deal with them?

The Government Gazette issued last week, has one peculiar little item, people offering anything for sale on the streets are to be liable to a fine of not less than ten pounds. Now who is that brick aimed at? Is it the poor little news boys for daring to strike, or is it our little Paper they are aiming at? Well when Greek meets Greek somebody gets hurt, and if that is their little game I should say let 'em all come. For ways that are dark and tricks that are vain the hee, haw, of our parliamentary Labor Party is peculiar.

EILEEN BAWN.

tissues of human life, and to-day the system is destroying girl-hood and woman-hood both physically and morally. But to-day there stirs in the human mind a new sense of power, of possibilities, a new order, a desire for a fuller and deeper life to be lived, a wider and more understanding thought and sympathy for the oppressed, and though it may be only half awakened in books, plays, lectures, this struggle toward something fuller and higher manifests itself. Deeply concerned with, and a mighty part of it is 'woman' and from her must come a great share of help and strength. What she can and is doing generally is everywhere discernible now that a greater freedom and larger knowledge are becoming hers. To those who would know their duty at the present I can but say, the first steps toward our ideal are the spread of Socialism as a morality, and the complete emancipation of our sisters.

J. C. Watson, ex-Prime Minister of Australia and present Managing Director of the prospective Labor daily, is off to London. He was given a send-off by the Institute of Journalists on February 19, and spoke a piece about what he expected to find in London. He didn't disclose what his mission was, but we wouldn't be surprised to learn that he is bent on some wind-raising errand. The "World," the new daily, cannot be published unless more capital is obtained, and the Australian workers don't seem inclined to furnish it. Among the big financiers of London J.C. might be able to do something. Holman has sold or pawned the State, so why shouldn't Watson pawn "The World." Both Holman and Watson know the way to Uncle's office.

When you have finished with this paper hand it to a friend.

Japan's Terms.

The terms on which Japan will send troops to India.

A Shanghai press dispatch of recent date reads as follows:

"Negotiations are going on between England and Japan with a view to persuading Japan to send troops to India so that England may send Indian troops to Europe. In consideration of this service, Japan is demanding the fulfilment of these three conditions: 1. The granting by England of a loan of £200,000,000; 2. The recognition of the right of Japan to send emigrants to Canada, Australia, and New Zealand; 3. a free hand for all troops which Japan may send to China."

In view of the foregoing, we can not refrain from expressing deep sympathy with our fellow workers in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. They will probably need something more substantial than sympathy in the not far distant future.

To a Labor Government.

If yet your haunted souls will grant you pause,
In contemplation of your traitorous laws,
Hold! you brood of hungry cuckoos; stay!
And hear a little what I have to say.
No rich man's platitudes pervade this verse,
But all the furies of a worker's curse,
No robes of gold, may now bedeck these lays!
The naked truth alone, shall meet your gaze.
Remember, once you posed as labor's chiefs,
And navigators of our seas of griefs,
Poor fools! we were, to trust our ships of State
With such a crew, as pilots of our fate.
Let's view this scene of misery and grief,
From which no act of yours has brought relief,
But only grave increasing plagues you've made,
Like Pharaoh's fakers is the part you've played!
To add to all those ills which labor bore,
You've given sanction to a bloody war.
And hunger now the grim recurring herald,
Compels the workless to the ranks of number;
And by their sad misguided mood he drains,
The last unmoistened drop from out their veins.
While we, whose toil is worth a little more,
Than stopping bullets on a foreign shore,
We pay expenses by a system brief:
"An increased tariff on our bread and beef!"
Not this alone, the worker's smokes and beer
Are price restricted from his modest cheer.
Your evil influence has shut away
The little sunshine from his feeble day.
While through the gloom of ignorance uncouth,
We find us groping for the torch of truth.
What power is this that wins your foul consent
To rob and murder to its heart's content?
What power is this, your craven hearts have wooed?
Erewhile your faithless tongues their lies construed!
'Tis lustful greed! with vicious laws well armed,
Within whose presence Progress stands alarmed,
While with his every soul corrupting breath,
He claims our birthrights with the threat of death.
Your faithless pledge, he pays but scant regard;
He buys 'is legislation by the yard.
'Tis plain to see the workers' trust you've sold,
For forty pieces of the robber's gold.
Corruption, shame, besmears each listless soul,
And soon each public life will swallow whole.
The honest man he marvels at your cheek,
That you, would still with men presume to speak!
He thinks, as you've so well betrayed our trust,
You would like Judas sneak away and bust.
But no such manly act reinkens my charge,
Each hardened conscience is a beast at large,
Which, prowling round the haunts of man contrives,
To prey on unsuspecting workers lives!
Until, by fear united we essay,
To drive the menace from our hopeful way.
And so, through labors, hopes and sorrows,
Our dull to days or beaming bright to-morrows,
Our union shines an ever constant sun,
Compelling warmth of faith in everyone.
When Labor wakes from its fear-drugged sleep,
And moves its hope-filled sails along the deep,
To peaceful realms beyond the social tide,
Our union's strength shall ever be our guide.
Your failures then bewashed by sad remorse,
Shall lie, a warning hulk on Labor's course.
Each cause on Times eternal wave shall see,
This battered relic of your treachery.
Scheme on! ye rogues! but don't forget this fact,
That Labor's awakened by each treacherous Act,
And schemes will not ye nothing in that hour,
When Labor hastens to its realm of Power.

A. E. WILLIAMS.

Last week Sydney "Sun" published a remarkable war picture. It was a picture of German, English, and French soldiers fraternising together on Christmas Day. On that day the soldiers on both sides decided on a truce, and, in spite of orders from headquarters that they were not to fraternise, many came out of the trenches and exchanged gifts and greetings. They were no doubt surprised to find that there was no difference between them, and had the matter been in their hands, we may be sure that the war would have ended there and then. Each found the other was a man like himself, a worker withdrawn from production and devoted to the fiendish work of destruction, and in a cause about which neither of them knew anything. The war was not made by them, and it could not be ended by them just then, so they had to go back to their trenches and go on squinting lead into each other until ordered to stop by those who ordered them to slaughter each other. Soldiers deny that they are slaves, but it would be hard to find another name as appropriate for them.

"To live straightforwardly by your own labor is to be at peace with the world. To live on the labor of others is not only to render your life false at home, but it is to enroach upon those around you, to invite resistance and hostility."—Edward Carpenter.

What is a Labor Fakir?

By LUKE JONES.

One often hears the question asked of Socialists: "What is a Labor Fakir?" It is a reasonable question; and although it often causes a little embarrassment it is highly important that it should be answered correctly. We propose therefore formulating an answer that will be as convincing as it is scientific. This done we hope to see hitherto jubilant hecklers at Socialist meetings completely crestfallen, and definitely silenced for ever on this burning topic, whilst our orators safe on the rock of positive knowledge proclaim the final triumph of Socialist methods and principles. We will consider our subject under four heads, Biological, Social, Economic and Political.

Biological.

The Labor Fakir is an animal. It is omnivorous and to all appearances a mammal. It is possessed of the faculty of speech and reason and may, therefore, be classed in the *Genus Homo*. It bears a striking resemblance both in structure and habits to the human being but in certain characteristics it departs so much from the true type, Man, that many writers have disputed its inclusion in the *Genus Homo* claiming that such inclusion is totally unscientific. We will note some of the objections and discuss their merits. It is contended by some of that the Labor Fakir is not a true vertebrate. Others assert that not one single specimen has yet been found to possess a vertebral column at all whilst many maintain that it is a vertebrate of the reptile class since its mode of locomotion is that of the true reptile, namely crawling on the belly. It is further urged in support of inclusion in Reptilia that the Labor Fakir is, as all reptiles are cold blooded. It would appear also that the opinion is gaining ground in certain quarters that the Labor Fakir is devoid of bowels. Many other objections are urged against our classification but consideration of space forbid us noting them. Confining ourselves then to those mentioned we might observe that: (1). If the Labor Fakir is not a true vertebrate or if as stated no specimen has been found to possess a vertebral column, how can it assume, as it has been seen to assume, the upright posture? We are inclined to think that that strict examination would prove the existence of the spine but in a very low state of development in fact just bordering on the condition of gristle or cartilage. (2). With regard to the reptilian habit of crawling: This characteristic only manifests itself on certain occasions, it evidently being a matter of volition whether that or the upright posture is adopted for the time being. But the true reptile cannot depart from its natural mode of locomotion much less assume the upright posture. We are therefore justified in opposing the reptilian classification. (3). Cold blood does not always signify a reptilian structure, indeed the phenomenon has been observed in many supposedly warm blooded animals. It is due to fear or cowardice arising out of the extreme desire for self-preservation before all other things. It is the antithesis of the gregarious instinct which pre-supposes the preservation of the herd, tribe or race. Philosophically it belongs to the Benthamite or Individualist-Utilitarian school of morality, a pure product of modern society and hence should be considered socially rather than biologically. (4). The absence-of-bowels theory is really untenable in face of facts. Whilst the method is empirical it is nevertheless decidedly useful; so just let us reflect for a few moments on the bare facts. Many times has the Labor Fakir proved that it does possess and can use to good effect bowels. In fact we believe that one of the mainstays of the Labor Fakir is the bowels, or what would be more correct, a first class set of digestive organs with a good pair of kidneys not liable to clogging from uric acid and hence a safeguard against gout and stone. Having dealt with the objections raised let us affirm our adherence to the classification in the *Genus Homo*. There remains yet the question of sex. A great controversy rages around this point just now so we cannot pass it over. We have attempted to solve the question by placing the Labor Fakir in the ancient section of the human females; but this brought resentment from the whole of the females and truly we felt it to be a trifle unjust. We could not for obvious reasons class it as a male, neither could we include it in the Eunuchs although like them the Labor Fakir has no posterity. Thus we were forced to class it with the Wower which of course is sexless. This exhausts our biological analysis.

Social.

The Labor Fakir springs from the subdivision of human society, the working-class. We use the words "springs from" because it correctly intimates that whilst the Labor Fakir originates in the working-class it does not remain there. It accomplishes a social metamorphosis that is truly remarkable and bears striking resemblance to its conduct in the world of politics. It is truly a social and political chameleon. However the Labor Fakir is found in many parts of the world and notably in English speaking countries where it seems to flourish with comparative ease. Its presence in Australia in huge num-

bers has led some people to believe that it is indigenous to that continent. That this is untenable is proved by a reference to its epidermis which bears that characteristic of all European races namely, whiteness. We consider it to be a pure product of Anglo-Saxon society. Other races it is true have its counterpart but the true type is distinctly Anglo-Saxon in its origin and is to be found wherever these races have planted themselves. Persons interested in the study of this fearsome creature may find large numbers in any town in Australia. Its usual habitat is Parliament House but many frequent the Trades Halls; in fact the latter places are so prolific of this animal that they are looked upon as incubators kept for the purpose of maintaining a fair supply. Other places where it may be caught are Missions, Friendly Societies, Churches of all denominations, Land and Estate Agencies, Small Shops and Lawyers Offices. There they abound in great numbers. No difficulty will be experienced in locating it if one bears in mind that it has a distinct aversion to work almost we believe pre-natal in its origin. Again its facility of adaptation to the manners and habits of the leisured class, is singular in itself and marks it out from the human beings with which it associates. This latter trait has brought dire results in its train, for even at the time of writing a local organ notes the high rate of mortality amongst Labor Fakirs and is deeply concerned to know if we "are killing our leaders off?" Now the rapid extermination of the Labor Fakir may be necessary and beneficial to society. Certain it is however that many people hold that opinion, for on the question are we killing? etc., being put to an assembly of persons lately the emphatic rejoinder "Let us hope so" came immediately, whilst some were honest enough to state that they were willing to assist the process, were it not for a mandarin sentiment against the taking of even useless persons lives. Indeed it is a strange phenomenon of modern jurisprudence that whilst numerous statutes specially protect the life of such as Bankers, Wowers, Capitalists and Labor Fakirs, no objection is levelled against the wholesale annihilation of hordes of workers provided they wear a distinction garb and pass a medical examination to prove physical fitness. Why special protection should be ensured to those who for the most part are disease-ridden, extra-corpulent and bone lazy passes the comprehension of the lay mind. Let us now pass on to the Economic field.

Economic.

The Labor Fakir is a non-producer, but a very considerable consumer of commodities. But many of them engage in the sphere of production whilst they are in the probationary period. This applies especially to those that come from the Trades Hall regions. Now it has already been said that the Labor Fakir may be easily distinguished by its repugnance to work. And those human beings who by economic pressure have been compelled to labor alongside it, invariably agree that the one aim of the Labor Fakir is to escape the incumbency of labor at the earliest possible moment. To this end all means are bent, all ways traversed, all possibilities exploited. Then when the desired haven is reached nothing in the universe can induce it to venture forth once more upon the turbulent waters of economic labor.

However, the Labor Fakir is a non-producer and therefore a parasite in society. We know from the study of biology that all parasites are doomed by the rigorous operation of natural forces to disappear. The organism affected tolerates the parasite until sufficient strength is gained to throw it off. This is rendered much easier by the parasites long cessation from self-exertion which engenders a helplessness that, as we see, is particularly useful to the affected organism. We may, then, confidently trust to the motion of socio-economic forces, expressing themselves in the activities of groups of human beings, to deal with the Labor Fakir. There now remains the political phase of the subject.

Political.

In the world of politics the Labor Fakir finds its natural niche. It seems to fly to politics; to be drawn there by an irresistible force, just as the moth to the candle or the fly to the treacle-pot. Whatever else may be said this at least we do know: That the Labor Fakir knows intuitively its precise function in society. We have to but to notice the career of any specimen we may encounter to see the truth of this dictum illustrated. The present writer has fortunately been able to observe its habits in Gt. Britain as well as in Australia, and can therefore testify to the correctness of the foregoing assertion. It is a curious phenomenon; and it does not present itself so strikingly in human beings as it does in the Labor Fakir. Many hypotheses have been advanced in explanation but the only one that seems to offer a tenable solution is this: The quality of economic self-interest being unduly developed, almost in fact to the complete exclusion of the gregarious and social propensities, produces, so to say, a sub-conscious recognition of the utility of politics to the end of obtaining individual security. This in time becomes the central thought; and just as the Socialist always reasoning from the standpoint of social welfare subordinating all so-

Make An Ally of Your Enemy

SOMETIMES I wonder what people will say about us a hundred years from now. They will write books about us and dig up our skulls to find out if they were ivory clear through. They will read the records of what we said and did and how we lived and sweated to make beautiful things—for somebody else to enjoy. And I expect they will finally give up the problem and decide that our poor heads just never developed any gray matter.

Then some wise old owl professor of biology will probably come forward and say we could not have had all the natural instincts, either, because even the lowest forms of animal life have enough sense to eat when there is food. Nobody ever heard of a monkey picking coconuts and going hungry. Perhaps some of our poor skulls will wind up in a museum devoted to the relics of the days when working men and women fed the whole world and starved themselves and built houses and slept in lumber yards. This is going to be our fate unless we wake up and show a glimmering of intelligence occasionally.

It is easy to see what the trouble is even if we are not yet strong enough to stop it.

We know why we are working for ten, twelve, eighteen and twenty dollars a week and permitting the boss to keep the coal we dig, the clothes we make, the food we raise, the houses we build.

We know why the idle capitalist is BOSS of the factory and is able to take all the profits. We know why we slave long hours at starvation wages.

It is not because the capitalist OWNS the mill or mine, but because he BOSSES it. Nobody would care if he treasured his little old ownership papers till the crack of doom, provided that WE who do the work, could GOVERN the plant, provided we could RUN the factory; in fact, if we could control the conditions under which we work, could keep our products and BOSS THE JOB.

If there were not a hundred men at the factory gates, at the mill, mine or shop every morning TRYING TO GET OUR JOBS, we COULD RUN the shop.

We saw a traction gang at work last week. About every five minutes, in full view of the crew, an out-of-work would file up to the foreman and ask for a job. Every time the gang saw those job-seekers, they humped over a little farther and quickened their pace in order to show the boss they were accomplishing more than the half-starved applicants could do. And when the foreman's back was turned and these "unfortunates" happened to pass near the gang, the men glared and swore at them. And one or two kicked out viciously to speed the departing failures.

tions to that end which results in his thought processes being invariably directed by that social consciousness, finds his actions political and other moulded by a consideration for his fellows, so the Labor Fakir being a pure product of rank individualism and looking only for individual safety reasons and acts always to that end and hence having no political concern for any but itself becomes a pure opportunist. And the capitalist, knowing the function of the Labor Fakir and realising that the working-class is not so susceptible to political side-tracking as was formerly the case especially when capitalist oracles themselves were the instruments hastens to hire the Labor Fakir who because of his working-class origin can more readily fool the workers. It merely requires that the Labor Fakir shall adopt the phraseology of the workers, and being designated Labor, the nostrums may be prepared and offered with safety of acceptance. If it can memorise a few Socialist shibboleths and cautiously garnish the deception with them so much the better. Suspicion will never rest there. Moreover the capitalist pays higher rates to those having a revolutionary tinge. How easy then for the Labor Fakir to emasculate any political move of the working class that the capitalists dare not teach without their actions arousing the suspicion of the workers. For example: Just at the present time Labor Fakirs are overhauling Industrial Unionism. It will later be handed to the workers, stings removed and specially sugar coated so that the capitalist may even become one of its protagonists. This is the political function of the Labor Fakir. This is his historic task. Let us sum up briefly.

Biologically the Labor Fakir is a monstrosity, almost a contradiction of zoology inasmuch as its spine is simply jelly; half a reptile sexless and cold-blooded.

Socially it is a consummate snob, apeing the habits and customs of the useless class in society to a complete loss of any self-respect it may have ever had.

Economically it is a parasite and happily destined to vanish ere long before the force of social progress.

Politically it is a decoy duck for the workers. It combines all the follies of treachery and bowelles deceit beneath an unctuous hypocritical pretence of working class intent. It is the personification of meanness self-seeking and humbug for all time.

And the out-of works had accomplished something for the boss. At the end of the day the foreman gave the crew their choice between being thrown into the ranks of the unemployed and accepting lower wages. Most of them accepted the lower pay and went away cursing "that scab lot" who had wrought the cut.

And that is precisely how your boss keeps you down. The fellows out of work don't get any help from you and they are compelled to beg, or scab, to steal or starve.

And when it comes right down to going without three meals a day and carrying the banner indefinitely, most of us would work for a meal ticket and room rent—if not for ourselves, for a wife and kiddies.

We can't blame the man who is out of work and hungry. We have to blame ourselves. If we exerted our reasoning powers at all, we would join forces with the unemployed to fight the capitalist or employing class. We would make the unemployed our ALLIES and not our enemies.

We can't expect a man or woman to jump into a river or go off quietly to some secluded corner and starve to death just for our sake. If they are not to take our jobs or lower our wages we must expect to give them something in exchange for their help and co-operation. The employing class are their enemy just as they are yours and mine.

In this connection we want to remember that the bosses cannot reduce wages or lengthen hours at their own sweet will. It is the needs of the unemployed that do this. Wages and hours are determined by the number of unemployed who are after a job. When men are scarce, the men on the job are able to raise wages and shorten their hours. When men are plentiful and there are more men than jobs, the competition for work among the working class forces wages ever lower, forces hours that are ever longer.

Now the boss cannot run the factory or the shop or mill without human labor power—men and women who will operate the machines and produce commodities to sell. It is to our interests to control the supply of labor power. We will act like the commission merchants who threw several cargoes of bananas into the lake in order to raise the price of bananas. We will WITH-HOLD some of the laborers from the market and raise the price of the labor power of those on the job. We will then be able to shorten hours and thus put some of the unemployed to work. And this is only for a beginning.

Nobody imagines there are more than ten per cent of the available workers unemployed in America today. Probably the number is much less, but, at any rate, it is up to US, who HAVE work, to feed, house and clothe every single person out of a job who will refuse to work unless he gets HIGHER wages and SHORTER hours than we are getting.

We will not have to SHARE our WAGES long. As soon as the bosses fail to find scores of desperate people begging for a chance to work every day, they will HAVE to give us shorter hours. And this will put some of the unemployed to work at once.

It is true your boss may refuse to grant you shorter hours, but you can all quit at 4 o'clock and go home. And what will the boss be able to do about it if he has nobody else to put in your place? In this way we can institute NEW shop LAWS. We shall have begun to practically control our labor power and the shop or plant in which we work.

We shall be able to refuse a cut in wages when we get the shorter work day for the same reason that we are able to shorten hours—the boss will be unable to get anybody else to take our jobs.

And when we are strong enough (well enough organised with our unemployed friends) to cut down our working day two hours, we shall be able to put every man and woman to work. Shorter hours means more jobs.

MAKE YOUR EMPLOYERS PAY.

Our good friend, Joe Hill, asked last month in an article in the Review, who was going to pay the big bill for taking care of the unemployed. Why the employers, of course!

You and I and the other folks on the job, may have to share up for a few weeks, but as soon as we are organised with our friends who are "laid off" so that they insist on demanding higher wages and shorter hours than we have before they will accept a job, we can force the bosses to put more and more of them to work.

NOT ENOUGH JOBS?

Somebody said the other day, "Well, but my goodness gracious! there are not enough JOBS for EVERYBODY!" He was wrong. We will cut the ten-hour day of the steel mill worker in HALF, if necessary and MAKE TWO GOOD JOBS at good pay where there was only ONE ROTTEN JOB BEFORE!

And then when we have learned to regulate the supply of labor power (working men and women) we can begin to put on the screws. We won't have to BUY the capitalist out, or build competing railroads. We will just be so strong in the shop, on the railroad, in the mines and mills that we will KEEP the value of our own prod-

MAKE AN ALLY OF YOUR ENEMY.

facts and eliminate the profits or rake-off of the capitalist class. Then ownership papers will not bring thirty cents on the stock exchange.

Now, of course, a few of us can not do all this alone. Our wages would not buy breakfast for half the jobless men we meet every morning on Clark street. But we CAN buy breakfast or dinner for one or two. And chiefly we can spread the propaganda for organization with the unemployed instead of organization AGAINST them and the employing class.

It is true it will not do much good to try to help and co-operate with the unemployed in a single city, for the unemployed go from town to town and from country to country in search of work. We must start organizing with the unemployed everywhere as fast as possible. The alliance between men on the jobs and the men who are "laid off" cannot work out perfectly in an isolated point. But it will improve conditions wherever it is inaugurated. And every time it is tried the idea will grow a hundred fold. The movement will be stronger.

We can each and all help the unemployed today and we can tell *why* and *how* we need their help. We can all give one jobless man a meal every day. We can help to find shelter for them. We can force all unions to come to their assistance, we can turn over the socialist party headquarters and union headquarters into soup kitchens, propaganda meeting places, organization headquarters, and lodging rooms for the out-of-workers.

And tell every workingman everywhere you go to ORGANIZE WITH THE UNEMPLOYED AND FIGHT THE BOSSES! Tell them to share with their friends who are out of work until the men on the jobs can shorten hours and MAKE JOBS for them. You can boss the boss if he can't get a man to take your place when you strike for shorter hours and higher pay.

Organize with the UNEMPLOYED and you can put all men and women to work; you can control the shop and mill and mine and some day you can keep the value of your products and abolish the profit system!

International Socialist Review.

A.S.P. News & Notes.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

Objective.—The social ownership with Democratic control of the means of Production, Distribution and Exchange.

Headquarters: 115 Goulburn St., Sydney.
LUKE JONES, General Secretary

CENTRAL EXECUTIVE.

The C. E. met on Saturday Feb., 20th. Usual routine business was dealt with. Next meeting Sat., March 6th, at 2.30 p.m. Will all delegates make a point of being present as very important business is on the agenda. The attention of members and branches is called to the following clause of rule 16. "No subscriptions shall be received by Branches without affixing the official Party stamps to membership cards." Members are warned that no subscriptions will be recognised unless stamps are affixed to card for the amount paid. This rule applies from January 1st., 1915.

A fine meeting was held at Auburn on Friday 19th Jan. Several speakers and literature sellers were in attendance and successfully delivered the oral and printed message to an appreciative audience. Auburn Branch is now in full swing and will in future conduct its own meetings, leaving the headquarters organisation to open branches elsewhere. Local comrades may join the Auburn branch on Monday evenings in the School of Arts.

Brookvale (Manly) socialists, lookout for a meeting to be held in the district shortly. Place and date will be announced in this column in next issue. The undersigned will be pleased to hear from comrades in the above locality who are willing to join a Branch if formed there. Other districts please follow suit and we will arrange meetings.

LUKE JONES, Gen., Sec.

GRAFTON.

Yesterday Q and I were 'at home' in Grafton Police Court. The charge against us was the usual one brought forward by the Police when they endeavor to suppress Free Speech. It was laid down that on the sixth day of February we did obstruct the free passage of the public upon a public place—to wit Pound-St., etc., etc. We had held a number of meetings and the Police had not interfered. On Saturday the sixth we decided not to hold a meeting at the Clock Tower because this is situated in the Main-St., and Saturday being a busy day a meeting would certainly interfere with the Traffic. The Salvation Army meet near the Clock Tower and in the Main-St., but of course the Army

these days is a decidedly privileged body. We opened up along a cross street down which there is very little traffic. Q was chairman. He hadn't spoken many minutes ere Mr. Policeman, that most indispensable of Society's evils, stepped forward and commanded him to desist. Q continued whereat the 'indispensable evil' took his name and address. I spoke afterwards but my name was not demanded. However we both had to appear before the dealer in 'Justice.' Q kept the court busy all the afternoon and compelled them to work overtime much to their displeasure. The Sergeant and Corporal (a one-striped gentleman) constituted the prosecution. Q called four witnesses for the defence. The prosecution's story was highly colored, as usual, to suit the occasion. One would imagine that on that night in question the traffic was of a nature similar to that met with in George-St., Sydney and that tremendous difficulty was experienced passing along Pound-St. As a matter of fact only two vehicles came along and the drivers pulled up at the meeting to listen to the speakers. Q managed to make the Sergeant and Policeman contradict one another. Guess that Policeman would get a wiggling afterwards. The Bench continually butted in with advice to the defendant who of course thanked the Bench in return, very courteously, for the kindness. The Bench was visibly impressed with Q's evident sincerity (?) but he 'took a tumble' towards the end and at the finish was threatening Q with contempt of court. Q was not permitted to address the court when all the evidence had been given. A vigorous protest was made but the only answer was the cowardly threat to deal with him as aforementioned. The defendant was found guilty and sentenced to be hung—no only two days imprisonment in Grafton jail with the option of paying a fine of 10s. and 6s., costs. Q asked for time to pay, Sergeant Prosecutor vigorously objected saying that the convicted one had plenty of friends in court and could easily borrow the money. Q pointed out that the Sergeant didn't know his (Q's) business and possibly the friends would desire him to go to jail but if the Sergeant himself liked to lend him the money all well and good he would pay in the fine. The Magistrate allowed 24 hrs. in which to pay. After the grueling given the Police by Q they decided to withdraw the case against myself the Sergeant passing the remark that 'it was impossible to go on like this.' Thus it would appear that the 'indispensable evil' sometimes becomes awed and allows its intended victims to go free. It may be that the summons issued against me was all bluff and only used as a cover to the attack upon Q who had incurred the enmity of the Sergeant. Great is the Law and its Instruments. Verily we would fain fall down and worship at the shrine of the 'Hass.' Praise the Law—Amen.

On my way from Brisbane I met the Boys at Lismore. We had heard good accounts of Lismore and expected a decent hearing. The Mayor graciously permitted us to hold a meeting. A splendid crowd assembled but a number of mouthing patriots were there who endeavored to break up our meeting. The Police as per usual looked on and smiled. However we kept our end up and long before the finish we commanded a hearing. Literature sales were excellent.

Yours with Carburter and Sparking Plug.
GEE BEE.

SYDNEY BRANCH.

Our past weeks effort was of unusual interest. Members are showing a definite desire to increase their value to the Cause and the Party.

Monday's Speaker's Class conducted by J.W. Roche, is enabling many young speakers to shew themselves. Tuesday's Economic Class conducted by com. L. Jones, is productive of much good. At this class many members scientific turn of mind was very ably demonstrated. One lady comrade in particular has surpassed all our anticipations at these classes, and we can expect her shortly, as a valuable addition to our squad of speakers.

Sunday in the Domain enabled us to greet our various comrades recently doing propaganda on the Northern Rivers. A very interesting incident associated with their return, was, that comrades Hill, Bomholtz and Holdsworth took the stump for the first time in the Dom. It only needs these comrades attendance at our classes to develop three worthy additional speakers.

Sunday-night found a large attendance at the Hall listening attentively to Mr. Taylor's lecture on "the relation between the Temporal and Spiritual powers." As one comrade very aptly put it; the lecturer very ably killed all the Gods of past ages, and we can only hope that his next lecture will as effectively exterminate all existing Gods.

Comrades should not forget to roll up and enjoy our Social and Dance on Friday Feb. 26th. The 12th, March will find us parading at a Special Ball in paper costumes representing our most brilliant idea.
L. J. F. Hon., Sec.

PROPAGANDA FIXTURES.

Domain Meetings.

Sunday Feb. 28th. Chair F. Highfield. Speakers: M. Rudolph, Mrs. Lorimer, (Industrial Unionism) and J. W. Roche.
Sun. March 7th. Chair Miss Arkley. A. Rees, Mrs. Macdonald, (Race Suicide) and Luke Jones.

Sun. March 14th. Chair C. Marsh, J. Brown, A. Thomas, and G. Slade.
Market Street.

Sun. Feb. 28th. Chair J. Jones, Bourne, M. Rudolph, M. Moss, and J. Quinton.
Sun. March 7th. Chair J. Fulham, Mrs. Paul, Mrs. Macdonald, and G. Slade.

Sun. March 14th. Chair F. Highfield, H. L. Denford, D. Healy, M. Moss.
Auburn (Fridays).

Feb. 26th. Mrs Paul, G. Slade.
March 5th. H. L. Denford, D. Healy.
March 12th. Mrs. Macdonald, M. Moss.

BROKEN HILL.

Notwithstanding the fact that the British Empire is mobilising her forces for the purpose of overcoming Prussian despotism and forever crushing the slavery that exists in Germany.

And without regard to the fact that Brewers, Hotel keepers and others of high standing have contributed freely to the various patriotic funds that are in existence.

One is greatly surprised to find that in this boasted home of militant unionism that a state of slavery still exists that would put to shame any of the previous forms that may have existed in any earlier stages of history.

The female workers of this sun-baked city, (and there are about 200 of them in the Hotel, Club and Restaurant Employees Union) have for some time past been enjoying the liberty of working 80 or 90 hours per week, and have also been enjoying the privilege of drawing salaries as low down as 12s. 6d., and 15s.

And as a result of being within the realms of the British Empire and having more liberty than any other species of biped, have saved such colossal piles of wealth, that they a few days ago decided to extort from their much wronged employers yet better conditions.

Of course the patriotism of the boss stood in the way of any such disloyal action on the part of the slaves. For is it not a fact that during the present crisis all classes should bear the burdens of the Empire, why should the slave not allow a reduction to be made in his wages and if need be sleep out in the streets.

True the boss still rides in his motor car and attends bridge parties etc., but then he has succeeded in business and any other person could have done the same had they only saved their money.

After having put up a fight for about three days, the only member of the master-class who stood aloof from the signing of the time honored log and agreement (good old agreement) gave in, and thus ended a short but decisive fight in favor of the worker.

I may state that in this particular craft there are many very militant members of the working class, but unfortunately they have allowed themselves to be guided by officials that are either too tired or too lazy to move out of their own way, who appear to have made no move in the past to educate the rank and file in any thing appertaining to true unionism and a realisation of their position in society. But have contented themselves by formulating time-agreements and wage logs to be signed by the boss and then when the occasion arises, to be broken by him with impunity.

For there is not the slightest doubt that if a little time and energy was given to real propaganda within the ranks of this craft and a little interest aroused in the minds of the slave in regard to unionism generally. That it would be possible to build up, in the place of the puny craft that we see to-day, an organisation that would be capable of preparing the men and women of to-day for the sterner battles that are to be fought by the working class in the "Days that are to come."

PLOTINUS,

NEWTOWN.

Newtown Branch.—Rooms 41 Enmore-Rd., Newtown. Propaganda meetings: Friday evenings, Johnstone-St., Leichhardt. Saturday and Sunday evenings, Newtown Bridge.

PROPAGANDA FIXTURES.

(Meetings commence at 7.30 p.m.)
Friday night: Johnstone-St., Leichhardt. Chair: F. Hancock. Speakers: C. Jackson, J. Brown, P. O'Connell.
Auburn Meeting: A. Thomas.
Saturday night: Newtown Bridge. Chair: C. Jackson. Speakers: J. Brown, J. Roche, J. Kilburn.
Sunday night: Newtown Bridge. Chair: W. Page. Speakers: C. Jackson, P. O'Connell, A. Thomas.
Ray Everitt, Secy.

Make the means of production the people's own. All else will follow.

When you have read this paper hand it to a friend.

PRESS AND MAINTENANCE FUND.

L. S. Club £2. 10 Collection 18s. 6d. Domain Collections 14s. 7d. Office Box 2s. 6d. A. Stratton 1s. 6d. Mrs. J. Macdonald 5s. Central Executive A. S. P. Stamp Levy £1. 5s.

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